



South Carolina

Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University
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Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency



GENERAL

Relief from the heat finally arrived during the week ending August 21st, 2011. Low temperatures registered in the sixties for many areas around the State. Highs were in the low nineties for the beginning of the week but heated up to mid-nineties by week's end. Crops and livestock were given a chance to recover with the cooler temperatures and improved soil moisture levels. Thunderstorms rolled into the eastern part of the State Thursday bringing rain to some of the coastal counties. Reports of army worms surfaced out of the Upstate, which kept farm operators on the lookout after a bad breakout last year. The State average temperature for the period was one degree above normal. Soil moisture conditions were 18% very short, 43% short and 39% adequate. The State average rainfall for the week was 0.4 inches with 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork.

FIELD CROPS

Ninety-six percent of the **CORN** crop had matured by the end of the week, six points ahead of the five year average. Forty percent of the crop had been harvested. Conditions were 46% very poor, 28% poor, 18% fair, 7% good and 1% excellent. **COTTON** completed squaring and 87% of the crop had set bolls by the end of the week, remaining exactly on schedule based on the five year average. Twelve percent of the bolls had opened by the end of the week. Conditions remained stable at 4% very poor, 17% poor, 41% fair, 36% good and 2% excellent. Ninety-nine percent of **PEANUTS** had pegged, on pace with last year but 1 point behind the five year average. Conditions improved slightly to 3% very poor, 9% poor, 39% fair, 48% good and 1% excellent. Ninety-two percent of **SOYBEANS** had bloomed with 52% of the crop setting pods by the end of the week, remaining well behind historical figures. Conditions were steady at 9% very poor, 26% poor, 42% fair, 22% good and 1% excellent. **TOBACCO** harvest continued with 80% of the crop harvested by week's end, one point ahead of last year's harvest. Thirty-five percent of the stalks had been destroyed.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Ninety-nine percent of **CANTALOUPE**s and **WATERMELONS** had been harvested. **LIVESTOCK** conditions declined slightly to 2% very poor, 13% poor, 36% fair, 48% good and 1% excellent. **PASTURES** improved slightly to 12% very poor, 31% poor, 35% fair and 22% good. Ninety-nine percent of **HAY** had been harvested, exactly on pace with last year's figure. **PEACH** harvest was 90% completed.

Crop Progress for Week Ending August 21, 2011

Crop and Stage	2011	2010	5-Yr Avg	Crop and Stage	2011	2010	5-Yr Avg
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cantaloup, Harvested	99	98	98	Peaches, Harvested	90	93	87
Corn, Matured	96	95	90	Peanuts, Pegged	99	99	100
Corn, Harvested	40	29	23	Soybeans, Bloomed	92	93	91
Cotton, Squared	100	100	100	Soybeans, Pods Set	52	66	60
Cotton, Bolls Set	87	84	87	Tobacco, Harvested	80	79	71
Cotton, Bolls Opened	12	7	5	Tobacco, Stalks Destroyed	35	29	22
Hay, Other Hay, Harvested	99	99	96	Watermelons, Harvested	99	99	97

Condition for Week Ending August 21, 2011

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	46	28	18	7	1	Pasture	12	31	35	22	0
Cotton	4	17	41	36	2	Peanuts	3	9	39	48	1
Livestock	2	13	36	48	1	Soybeans	9	26	42	22	1

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending August 21, 2011

Monday’s early morning temperatures fell into the 60’s for much of the State. Bennettsville and Cedar Creek cooled to 64 degrees. Sunny blue skies and cumulus clouds signaled the arrival of a fresh airmass from the northwest. On Tuesday morning Kingstree and Hartsville reported low temperatures of 61 degrees. The Tuesday through Thursday three-day stretch of recording daily average temperatures below the long term average at the Columbia Metro AP was the first such occurrence at that location since the same dates in May. Veering surface winds on Thursday allowed for a convective boundary to form along the coastal counties with scattered thunderstorms. The Myrtle Beach Fire Department measured rains totaling 1.15 inches while Bennetts Point, just west of Edisto Island, measured 1.04 inches. Daytime heating on Friday sent the mercury to 96 degrees at both Dillon and Clarks Hill. Afternoon and evening storms on Saturday at Springfield left 1.35 inches of rain and 1.34 inches at Gaston Shoals. Clinton recorded the State’s highest temperature on Sunday at 98 degrees before strong storms and heavy rains passed eastward though Dillon County and to the north coast. The State average temperature for the seven-day period was one degree above normal.

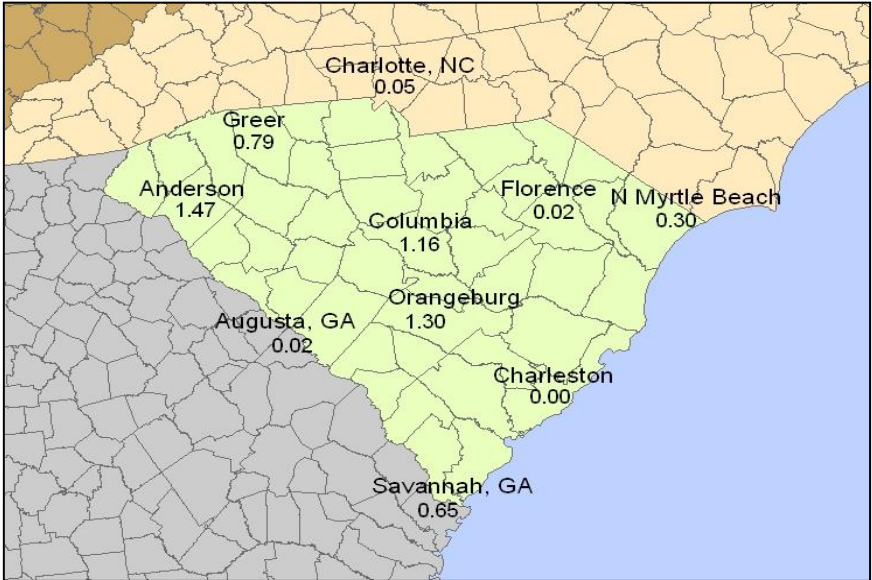
The highest official temperature reported was 99 degrees at Johnston and McCormick on August 19. The lowest official temperature reported was 57 degrees at Chesnee on August 16. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 1.72 inches at Holly Hill ending at 7:00 a.m. on August 21. The State average rainfall for the period was 0.4 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth soil temperature: Columbia 83 degrees, Charleston 85 degrees.
RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 85 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Total for Week	Total for 2011	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.79	28.74	-2.4
Anderson	1.47	22.66	-5.7
Columbia	1.16	27.54	-2.9
Orangeburg	1.30	27.92	-3.8
Charlotte, NC	0.05	29.18	1.9
Augusta, GA	0.02	23.51	-6.1
Florence	0.02	20.92	-7.9
N Myrtle Beach	0.30	19.85	-12.8
Charleston	0.00	27.91	-5.2
Savannah, GA	0.65	26.00	-6.3

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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